



National Commission on the Future of the Army

2530 Crystal Drive, Zachary Taylor Building, Suite 5000
Arlington, VA 22202

SUBJECT: National Commission on the Future of the Army (NCFA) Minutes from the Commissioners, 15 June 2015, Engagement with the Adjutant Generals of the United States at the Adjutant Generals Association of the United States Conference

Dates: 15 June 2015

Time: 0900-1100

Location: Stone Mountain, Georgia

Format: Three Commissioners engagement with the Adjutant Generals Association of the United States (AGAUS)

Attendees:

Commissioner Thomas R. Lamont

Commissioner Larry R. Ellis

Commissioner Jack C. Stultz

Mr. Donald C. Tison – Designated Federal Officer

LTC John A. Adams - Executive Officer to the Designated Federal Officer for the NFCA

MG (R) Raymond W. Carpenter – Executive Director, NCFA

COL Richard G. Miller – NCFA Staff

Mr. Johnny F. Thomas – NCFA Staff

Documents Submitted To The Commission: MajGen Donald Dunbar, TAG, Wisconsin ANG, discussion points on “National Guard Framework”; MajGen Donald Dunbar, TAG, Wisconsin ANG presentation on “The History of the National Guard”; MG Daniel Hokanson, TAG, Oregon ARNG, introduction notes; MG Daniel Hokanson, TAG, Oregon ARNG presentation on “Army Aviation and the Importance to the Army National Guard”; MG Daniel Hokanson, TAG, Oregon ARNG presentation on “Viable Alternatives to the Aviation Restructure Initiative”; ARNG Pushcard Packet, MajGen Edward Tonini, TAG, Kentucky ANG Testimony.

Meeting Summary

Commissioners Lamont, Ellis and Stultz along with the National Commission on the Future of the Army (NFCA) Executive Director MG (R) Carpenter attended The Adjutant Generals Association of the United States (AGAUS) conference, 14-16 June, at Stone Mountain, Georgia. The AGAUS adjusted their published schedule to include and begin their conference with the NFCA. Mr. Tison, Designated Federal Officer, opened by explaining the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act that NFCA must follow. The objectives of the Commission’s visit were to explain the purpose of the commission, answer questions from the Adjutant Generals and collect data.

Maj Gen Tonini, President of the AGAUS, provided opening remarks followed by presentations on: National Guard Framework; Viable Options to the Aviation Restructure Initiative; The Adjutant Generals Consensus; and Closing Remarks from Maj Gen Tonini. The Commissioners made statements and asked questions during and after the formal presentations.

The “Viable Options to the Aviation Restructure Initiative,” was the focal point of the TAG’s presentation to the Commission. The TAGs emphasized the following:

- Aviation Restructure Initiative (ARI) is not a Total Force Solution
- ARI impacts the total force by moving the most expensive element to the most expensive component
- ARNG Viable Options
 - Create a multi-component unit
 - Reduce the number of AH-64d’s in ARS from 24 to 18
 - Equip Army Pre-positioned Stocks with Commercial of the Shelf available Army scout aircraft
- TAGs seeking a compromise proposal that keeps the Apaches in the ARNG
- TAGs asserted the current BOG:Dwell is not sustainable in the Active Component. The TAGs also state the Commission’s Fort Bragg visit indicated the Active Component cannot sustain the 1:1.4 rate. Where is the relief?
- Build depth by integrating the ARNG with the Active Component.

Highlights of the questions and statements between the Commissioners and the TAGS:

Commissioner Stultz: The NFCA will research: Stationing of aviation structure and pilots similar to Air Force (Associated Units); Loss of depth; Cascade effect of pilots from Active Component to Reserve Component if there are no Reserve Component units.

Commissioner Lamont: What will happen to the Apache (ARNG) Pilots if ARI is implemented? MG Daniel Hokanson, TAG, Oregon ARNG: Some will leave the ARNG and some will transition to another aircraft.

Maj Gen Tonini: The TAGs were not consulted with the ARI and all proposals from the ARNG were rejected by the Army’s leadership. The TAGs asked Congress to form the NCFA as a result of the Budget Control Act (BCA) reductions to the ARNG (315K or 325K). .

Commissioner Ellis: The NFCA will research personnel policies that impede the movement of personnel from one component to another. A change in this policy will facilitate the movement of soldiers between components.

Commissioner Stultz: We will need to relook the multi-component concept. How do we validate readiness? The Active can support the Reserve but also the Reserve can fill out the Active units. It should work both ways.

Commissioner Lamont: One of our missions is to identify the impediments that stop new ideas such as the active Command Sergeant Major that was nominated to become the Command Sergeant Major of an ARNG unit in West Virginia.

Commissioner Lamont: Do you have enough to execute your state missions? Maryland TAG: If not enough we have access to assets from other states. Using the recent Baltimore riots, MG Singh, Maryland TAG, stated the Maryland ARNG reached out to Delaware, the District of Columbia and Virginia for additional assistance. The real question, is 350K sufficient? MG Carr, TAG Indiana ARNG, the 12304b demand/request is 3500 man years. The FY16 Budget is 1000 man years.

The session with AGAUS closed with the Commissioners requesting that AGAUS to send to the Commission: (1) All briefings presented to the Commission and (2) The Enlisted Soldier Survey.

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